

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image processing apparatus, comprising:
input means for inputting first image data and
second image data;
5 determining means for determining a display
position of the second image; and
display control means for superimposing one of
the first image and the second image on the other and
displaying the first and second images on a monitor
10 such that the second image is positioned in the
display position determined by the determining means,
wherein the determining means determines a
display position of the second image such that the
display position is changed within a range that is
15 apart from the display position determined last time
by a predetermined number of pixels.
2. An apparatus according to claim 1, further
comprising:
20 instruction means for instructing display of
the second image on the monitor,
wherein the determining means determines a
display position of the second image according to an
instruction by the instruction means.
- 25 3. An apparatus according to claim 1,
wherein the determining means changes a display

position of the second image to an arbitrary position within the range.

4. An apparatus according to claim 1, further
5 comprising:

storage means for calculating and storing an accumulated display time in respective display positions determined by the determining means,

wherein the determining means determines that a
10 position where the accumulated display time is minimum among the respective display positions is a display position of the second image.

5. An apparatus according to claim 1, further
15 comprising:

image generation means for generating an object image,

wherein the display control means controls display such that the object image generated by the
20 image generation means is superimposed on the first image as the second image and displayed.

6. An apparatus according to claim 5,
wherein the object image includes an icon image
25 or a boundary of images.

7. An apparatus according to claim 1, further

comprising:

image size conversion means for expanding or
reducing the second image,

wherein the display control means controls
5 display such that the second image expanded or
reduced by the image size conversion means is
superimposed on the first image.

8. An apparatus according to claim 7,
10 wherein the image size conversion means expands
or reduces the first image, and the display control
means displays the first and second images expanded
or reduced by the image size conversion means on an
identical screen of the display means.

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9. An image processing method, comprising:
input step for inputting first image data and
second image data;
a determining step for determining a display
20 position of the second image; and
a display control step for superimposing one of
the first image and the second image on the other and
displaying the first and second images on a monitor
such that the second image is positioned in the
25 display position determined by the determining step;
wherein in the determining step, a display
position of the second image is determined such that

the display position is changed within a range that is apart from the display position determined last time by a predetermined number of pixels.

5 10. A method according to claim 9, further comprising:

 an instruction step for instructing display of the second image on the monitor,

 wherein in the determining step, a display
10 position of the second image is determined according to an instruction issued in the instruction step.

 11. A method according to claim 9,
 wherein in the determining step, a display
15 position of the second image is changed to an arbitrary position within the range.

 12. A method according to claim 9, further comprising:
20 a storage step for calculating and storing an accumulated display time in respective display positions determined in the determining step,
 wherein in the determining step, a position where the accumulated display time is minimum among
25 the respective display positions is determined as a display position of the second image.

13. An image processing apparatus, comprising:
input means for inputting image data;
image generation means for generating an object
image; and

5 image composition means for compositing the
object image generated by the image generation means
with respect to the image inputted by the input means
in a predetermined position,

wherein the image composition means applies
10 predetermined processing to a boundary between the
image and the object image so as to make the boundary
unclear.

14. An apparatus according to claim 13,
15 wherein the object image includes an icon image
or a display frame framing the image.

15. An apparatus according to claim 13,
wherein the image composition means draws the
20 boundary of the object image as a zigzag line that
changes every time the object image is displayed or
at every predetermined time interval.

16. An apparatus according to claim 13,
25 wherein the image composition means adds the
image and the object image at a predetermined ratio
in the boundary of the object image.

17. An apparatus according to claim 16,
wherein the image composition means gradually
changes the adding ratio of the image and the object
image in a predetermined direction of the boundary.

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18. An apparatus according to claim 13,
wherein the image composition means makes the
boundary between the image and the object image black
and white.

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19. An image processing method, comprising:
an input step for inputting image data;
an image generation step for generating an
object image; and

15 an image composition step for compositing the
object image generated in the image generation step
with respect to the image inputted in the input step
in a predetermined position,

wherein in the image composition step, a
20 predetermined processing is applied to a boundary
between the image and the object image so as to make
the boundary unclear.

20. A method according to claim 19,
25 wherein the object image includes an icon image
or a boundary of images.

21. A method according to claim 19,
wherein in the image composition step, the
boundary is drawn between the image and the object
image as a zigzag line that changes every time the
5 object image is displayed or at every predetermined
time interval.

22. A method according to claim 19,
wherein in the image composition step, the
10 image and the object image are added at a
predetermined ratio in the boundary between the image
and the object image.

23. A method according to claim 22,
15 wherein in the image composition step, the
adding ratio of the image and the object image is
gradually changed in a predetermined direction of the
boundary.

20 24. A method according to claim 19,
wherein in the image composition step, the
boundary between the image and the object image is
made black and white.